

The Army Training and Testing Area Carrying Capacity (ATTACC) Program

Technology

The Army Training and Testing Area Carrying Capacity (ATTACC) program is a software model used to determine land rehabilitation and maintenance costs associated with land-based military training. ATTACC is part of the Army's Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) Program, a land monitoring and management program developed at ERDC's Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL), and now mandated for all Department of Defense (DOD) installations. ITAM's purpose is to ensure training capability and provide a realistic landscape—with least impact on the environment.

Problem

Heavier and faster vehicles, longer combat engagement distances, increased mechanization, combined arms exercises, more concentrated training due to Base Realignment and Closure, and testing requirements for advanced weapons systems and other materiel have increased the environmental impacts of military training on U.S. Army installations. Installations must also comply with environmental regulations and strive to conserve the natural resources on which effective training and testing rely. ITAM managers need a simple, straightforward method to determine how much training impact an area can sustain before it should be taken out of service and rehabilitated.

Expected Cost To Implement

ATTACC software is available to ITAM installations at no cost. Installations currently using ITAM should already meet hardware requirements. Additional costs are limited to the time associated with software installation and training.

Benefits/Savings

ATTACC provides land managers with a bottom line "training area carrying capacity," measured in Maneuver Impact Miles (MIMs). (The measured threshold value in MIMs

indicates the amount of training allowable on a particular area.) ATTACC is also a useful planning tool. Its results not only indicate whether that a land area is "OK to use," but also show the cost to maintain the land. ATTACC helps planners choose training sites with the best impact resistance and the lowest cost revegetation needs.



Status

The ATTACC software is complete and operational, and has been distributed to all ITAM (i.e., major Army) installations.

ERDC POC

Alan B. Anderson, Environmental Biologist, CERL, PO Box 9005, Champaign, IL, 61826-9005; phone: 217-373-4574; e-mail:

Alan.B.Anderson@erdc.usace.army.mil

Distribution Sources

ATTACC is available free of charge to ITAM installations (on CD-ROM) from the U.S. Army Training Support Center (ATSC), Fort Eustis, Virginia 23604-5166.

Available Documentation

The ATTACC handbook and other information papers are available online through the ITAM website, at URL:

http://www.army-itam.com/attacc/reference materials.jsp

Available Training

Currently, there is no scheduled training for ATTACC. The annual ITAM workshop offers an opportunity for ITAM users to discuss various aspects of ATTACC implementation. Information on upcoming and past ITAM workshops is available online through the ITAM website, at URL:

http://www.army-itam.com/workshop/overview.jsp

Help is also available online and through the support POCs listed in Appendix G of the handbook.

Available Support

Support for ATTACC (links to the User working Group, a Chat Room, Reference Materials, and additional Tools) is available online through the ITAM website, at URL:

http://www.army-itam.com/attacc/overview.jsp

A current listing of POCs associated with specific aspects of the ATTACC program is available in "Appendix G" of the U.S. Army Training And Testing Area Carrying Capacity (ATTACC) Handbook for Installations, which is available online at URL:

http://www.army-itam.com/attacc/cover.html